

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

REMEMBERING THE LATE HONORABLE STEVE LATOURETTE

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to-night to honor a statesman and friend, Congressman Steve LaTourette.

For 18 years, Steve served the constituents of Ohio's 14th and 19th Congressional District with distinction. He was tenacious, shrewd, thoughtful, but more importantly, he was always eager to listen and find common ground.

Steve was an expert in parliamentary procedure. His interest in the occurrences on the floor went well beyond his own priorities or personal interests. I had the honor of working with him to protect and preserve one of the most beautiful natural resources we have here in America, the Great Lakes. He understood that along with protecting the environment of these majestic waters, millions of Americans depend on these lakes for their livelihood. Over those 18 years, Steve became more than a colleague, he became a friend. I fondly remember sneaking up to the chair and passing the gossip of the day with him. I don't think you could find a single member when he retired that wasn't sad to see him go.

There was one thing that he loved more than Congress, his family; he was a devoted husband and father. As we look to the end of this Congress and the start of a new, let us remember Steve as a man who always sought common ground and practical solutions, all with a smile and laugh.

CAESAR SYRIA CIVILIAN PROTECTION ACT OF 2016

SPEECH OF

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2016

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5732, the Caesar Syria Civilian Protection Act of 2016.

In September, a trending comment on Twitter read: This is not Pompeii, this is Aleppo. Think about that for a minute. The death and destruction in Aleppo has reached such epic proportions that we are comparing it to one of the most deadly natural disasters in world history.

The President and his administration have continued to highlight the horrors of Syria exhibited by Assad and Putin by using terms like "barbarism", "beyond the pale", and "haunting". I think the more apt term for this is "a problem from hell."

Yet, even as the President, Secretary of State, and Ambassador to the UN continue to talk about the carnage in Syria, there has

been very little action to end the suffering of the people of Aleppo and across Syria.

Mr. Speaker, it pains me every single time I come to the well of the House to talk about the atrocities in Syria. But we are failing the innocent people of Syria through our inaction.

Rather than enforcing red lines for Assad's use of chemical weapons or enhancing sanctions against the Russians for their war crimes in the bombing of medical facilities and aid convoys, the President and Secretary of State focus their attention on sham ceasefires that are continually violated by the people with which we negotiate.

They constantly worry about the Iranians walking away from flawed nuclear deals instead of leading the global community to end the atrocities in Syria.

I have said it before, and I will say it again: Russia and Iran are not our allies. Their interests lie in destabilizing Europe and turning the Middle East into a wasteland of murder and chaos.

Mr. Speaker, there needs to be a true cost for the complicity in war crimes and crimes against humanity. It's time that Russia, Iran, and Syria are held accountable.

That is why this bill is so important. It would increase sanctions on the Assad regime and its supporters for the continued atrocities committed against the Syrian people. It requires this administration and any future administration to stand up and impose costs on the Russians, Syrians, and Iranians for the barrel bombing and gassing of innocent civilians.

I want to thank my colleagues, Congressman ENGEL and Congressman ROYCE for introducing this critical bill.

We owe it to the innocent people of Syria to bring justice against the Assad regime, Russian military, and their allies and help the struggling people of Syria.

If we fail to act, fail to lead—this Syrian Civil War will be the greatest humanitarian crisis of the 21st century.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, the evening of November 14th, I am not recorded on two votes, because I was absent due to a mechanical failure on my flight.

If I had been present, I would have voted: on roll call 575; yes, and on roll call 576; yes.

RECOGNIZING THE NORTH- WESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and admiration that I recognize

the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) as the organization celebrates its 50th anniversary.

Since its inception in 1966 as the Lake-Porter County Regional Transportation and Planning Commission, which became NIRPC in 1973, the agency continues to play a vital role in the planning and coordination of Northwest Indiana's highway, local road, public transit, and trails systems. In addition, NIRPC continues to perform essential regional environmental planning and land use analysis. Serving the people of Lake, LaPorte and Porter Counties, NIRPC's coordinating role among the various public interests has been crucial to the success of the region.

During the course of the past 50 years, NIRPC has been instrumental in shaping our region's view toward transportation infrastructure as well as land-use planning. Often, we narrowly view transportation infrastructure as simply the roads upon which we drive. The organization's executive directors, Board of Commissioners, and transportation planners have challenged this understanding by developing programs focused upon regional transit, through its support for increasing commuter transportation opportunities along existing bus systems and the South Shore Rail Line, upon our waterways, by shaping transportation policies along our rivers, and upon our multimodal trail system, the availability of which increased from 13 miles in 1990 to nearly 150 miles currently under NIRPC's direction. NIRPC's work to expand the concepts of interconnectivity within the communities in its three-county system benefits the economic development of our region as does its work in support of the Marquette Plan, a land-use reinvestment strategy focused upon the Lake Michigan shoreline. Working in coordination with the Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority and the lakefront communities, NIRPC's technical expertise has led to the implementation of transformational, intergenerational projects along the lakeshore. Indiana's First Congressional District has resources other areas in our country envy—our transportation infrastructure, our waterways and shoreline, and our proximity to Chicago—all of which have been enhanced by the exceptional leadership exhibited by the dedicated individuals and municipal officials which make up NIRPC.

I would be remiss if I did not mention just a few of the people who have made NIRPC's first 50 years such a great success and guarantee at least another half century of accomplishment. The commission's first Chairman, Dr. Joseph J. Forszt; Vice-Chairman, Virgil O. King; Secretary William L. Staehle; Executive Director, Norman E. Tufford; and Deputy Director Jim Ranfranz were essential in establishing and guiding the organization. NIRPC is currently under the able direction of Chairman, Chesterton Town Councilman James Ton; Vice-Chairman, Highland Clerk-Treasurer Michael Griffin; Secretary, Beverly Shores Town Councilman Geof Benson; Executive Director, Ty Warner; and Deputy Director, Steve

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Strains. The wide array of talent and ideas possessed by these individuals and countless others has developed NIRPC's focus and promises its future success.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring and congratulating NIRPC. For the past 50 years, the organization has touched the lives of countless individuals through its unwavering commitment to the community of Northwest Indiana.

TRIBUTE TO DOCTOR TOM
LARWOOD AND HIS LEADERSHIP
ON VALLEY FEVER RESEARCH

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and achievements of Dr. Tom Larwood, who passed away on September 6, 2016 at the age of 90. He was a devoted community leader in Kern County, California, a pioneer in Valley Fever research, and a good friend of mine.

Doctor Tom—as he was known in Bakersfield—served in the Navy Hospital Corps and went on to graduate from the University of Southern California's School of Medicine. Active in his local Methodist church, Tom went on a missionary trip to South Korea in 1955 where he provided medical assistance and was instrumental in the construction of a new hospital in Wonju. Currently, Wonju Severance Christian Hospital is the largest university hospital in central Korea, a lasting marker of Tom's desire to help others. Despite contracting polio during his time in South Korea, Tom continued to lead a life of profound professional accomplishment and remained fiercely dedicated to community service.

Tom settled in Bakersfield in the 1950s. During this time, he practiced medicine at Kern County General Hospital, now the Kern Medical Center, where he rose to the position of Chief of Internal Medicine. Over the course of his career, he became a respected leader and expert, both locally and nationally, on Valley Fever. He worked closely with others, including Dr. Royce Johnson and the late Dr. Hans Einstein, to raise awareness of this disease, educate health care professionals on how to diagnose and treat it, pioneer treatments and other therapies to combat Valley Fever, and promote the development of a Valley Fever vaccine—an endeavor that continues today.

Valley Fever—formally known as coccidioidomycosis—is a disease caused by a fungus that is found in soil mainly in the American southwest and is contracted by inhaling spores into the lungs. This disease has long been a threat to our community and is particularly dangerous to individuals with compromised immune systems and the elderly. Tom and his wife, Pauline, whom he married in 1972, worked tirelessly with the Valley Fever Americas Foundation for more than two decades to spread awareness of Valley Fever and raise money to fund critical research designed to stamp out this disease. In fact, I was honored to recently present the Larwoods with the Hans Einstein Lifetime Achievement Award for their work on Valley Fever.

After retiring from medical practice in 1991, Tom remained an active participant in an array of local medical boards and was an enthusiastic volunteer with the American Lung Association, Boy Scouts of America (he was an Eagle Scout), Bethany Homeless Center, and the Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra, among others.

I considered the advice Doctor Tom gave me—whether on Valley Fever, health care issues, or how to better serve our community—as invaluable. He is survived by Pauline, his children, David, Don, Dean, Debbie, Diana, Mike, and Scott, and his eight grandchildren. I will miss Tom's great sense of humor and constant optimism, and I know he will be fondly remembered in the hearts and minds of the countless patients and their families that he served in Kern County.

COMMEMORATING THE 190TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF SCHUYLKILL
TOWNSHIP

HON. RYAN A. COSTELLO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the residents, businesses, and Board of Supervisors of Schuylkill Township as they celebrate 190 years as a municipality in Chester County, Pennsylvania.

Swedish and Dutch settlers first arrived in the area situated between the Schuylkill River and Pickering Creek in 1713 and named the river "Schuylkill", meaning "hidden river" in Dutch. More than a century later on November 4, 1826, the eastern portion of neighboring Charlestown Township was declared Schuylkill Township by the Chester County Court.

One of the Township's most-recognized historical structures is the Schuylkill Friends Meeting House where several generations of Quakers have worshipped and, prior to the Civil War, aided slaves seeking freedom and hosted visits by noted abolitionists of the era. The Township's rich agriculture heritage includes sprawling farms owned by the Reeves family, who operated the Phoenix Iron Works, and relatives of former Pennsylvania Governor Samuel Whitaker Pennypacker. Today, more than 8,500 people call the 9.44 square miles that make up Schuylkill Township home.

The community commemorated the Township's 190th anniversary on Saturday, November 5, 2016, during its annual Founders Day celebration. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the residents, business owners, and community leaders as Schuylkill Township marks this memorable milestone.

HONORING DOROTHY MAY SHARER

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dorothy May Bick Sharer, or Dodo, as she was called by her father. Dorothy is a longtime Michigan resident and a community gem.

Dorothy was born on December 19, 1915, and will be celebrating her 101st birthday this year. She was born in Toledo, Ohio, where she resided until she moved to Michigan with her husband, Raymond Sharer.

Dorothy has one daughter, three grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren, of whom she is very proud. She has a passion for animals and she and her husband spent many years raising and showing horses.

Mr. Speaker, Dorothy has been a community member cherished by many and we are thrilled to celebrate and honor her birthday this year. I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring Dorothy.

IN RECOGNITION OF SHERIFF
ROBERT SIKES

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Sheriff Robert Sikes who passed away on September 26 at the age of 88.

Mr. Sikes has always been an important part of the coastal Georgia community, dedicated to making it a great place to live as well as improving the lives of his fellow residents. Even as a high school student at Bradwell Institute, he worked toward improving his community as class president, Beta club president, and a district winner in track.

Mr. Sikes took his community service to the national level by enlisting in the United States Navy and serving during World War II. After his service in the Navy, Mr. Sikes moved back to coastal Georgia where his father was serving as the county sheriff. In 1959, when his father's term was ending, Mr. Sikes ran for sheriff and won the seat originally held by his father. He worked as sheriff of Liberty County for 29 years before retiring.

Now, Mr. Sikes's son holds the position—truly speaking to the amount of respect that the community has for Mr. Robert Sikes and his family. In addition, Mr. Sikes served as president of the Bradwell Football Boosters Club, member of the Alea Temple Shrine Club, the Georgia Sheriffs Association, Hinesville Rotary Club, and the First United Methodist Church.

On May 3, 2014, a section of I-95 was marked and dedicated to Mr. Sikes in gratitude of his devotion for his community. It is an honor today to recognize the life of this great man.

CONGRATULATING CATHEDRAL
HIGH SCHOOL, A BLUE RIBBON
SCHOOL

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an outstanding school that is being honored as a 2016 National Blue Ribbon School. It is a pleasure to congratulate Cathedral High School in Indianapolis, Indiana in celebration of this special occasion.